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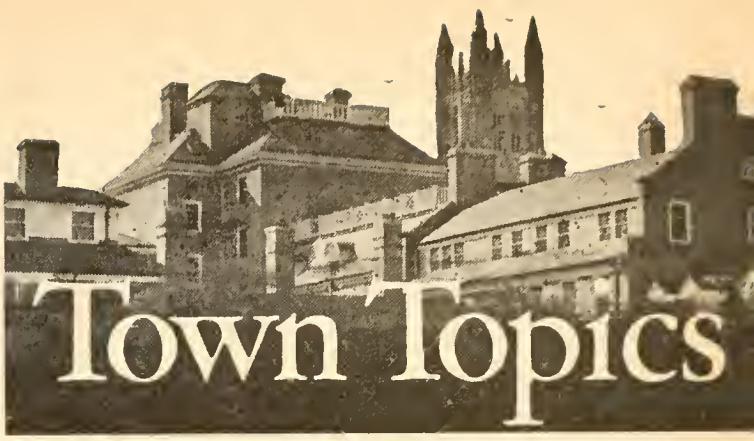

Town Topics

WE NOMINATE

Kenneth William Hechler, 33-year old member of Princeton's Department of Politics, who in less than a year has established himself as an extremely effective and original teacher in a community which has long prided itself on academic trail-blazing. He joined the University Faculty last September and has since gained columns of unsought publicity by inaugurating a series of telephone lectures that by phone-and-amplifier circuits bring the voices of nationally prominent figures (e.g., Paul R. Hoffman, Jim Farley, George D. Aiken) into campus classrooms. More important, the stimulating activities of this Swarthmore-educated bachelor are deeply appreciated and are discussed far and wide by the men studying under him.

With Hechler, his two-way lectures, during which students may pick up the phone and quiz the experts, are anything but showmanship, for they are all related to course topics and frequently constitute the basis of examination questions. Indicative of his belief in this unique teaching technique, that was inspired by Farley's telephonic miracles in swinging the 1932 presidential nomination to FDR, is the fact that he personally foots the phone bills. Norman Thomas, a member of the Princeton Class of 1905, cost him $5.20 for his discussion of third parties and other calls have ranged as high as $10.00.

Hechler, former lecturer in government at Columbia and Barnard and one-time administrative analyst in the National Bureau of the Budget, feels that the trips to Washington, D.C., he has organized for his classes in "Legislatures" have proved to be "even more effective than the telephone." On eight such whirlwind jaunts, Princetonians under Hechler's leadership have been brought into direct contact with approximately half of the Senate and one out of every five Congressmen.

Now collaborating with Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, former special counsel to Presidents Truman and Roosevelt, on "The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin Delano Roosevelt," Hechler enlisted in the Army in 1942, was trained with the Armored Force and returned to civilian clothes as a major, after having served for two years in ETO as a Combat Historian. He was at the Remagen Bridgehead, was a familiar figure at the command posts of the 1st Infantry Division, trailed rifle companies and mortar platoons and in the summer of 1945 was given the satisfying task of interviewing such juicy pigs-in-the-poke as Goering, Jodl, Kesselring, Guderian and Keitel.

For contributing in a real sense to Princeton's reputation for education and scholarship; for understanding that teachers "must be equal to their business but not above it;" for insisting that college men must be prepared to the best of their ability to meet the changing challenges of their times; he is TOWN TOPICS' nominee for

PRINCETON'S
MAN OF THE WEEK
May 16-22, 1948

PATRON

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Town Topics

Published Every Thursday throughout the Year

DONALD C. STUART, JR.
DAN D. COYLE
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Advertising Rates on Application.
Box 371 Princeton, N. J. Telephone 2326

Vol. III, No. 10 May 16-22, 1948

Topics of the Town

Fire Trap. Harassed members of the Princeton Fire Department might follow the example set this week by their contemporaries in Jamesburg: weary of battling fire engine chasers for the right of way, the department in that normally contented hamlet set off a false alarm. Leading their quarry down a narrow street, they roped off a section where they were supposed to go into action. When four of the villagers burst the barriers, they were hailed before the local magistrate, warned that repetition of their eagerness would bring $25 fines and jail.

Warm Spring. The weatherman boosted temperatures from 35 last Friday to 85 Monday and Tuesday. In Borough Hall Tuesday night, steam radiators were on full blast while the council was in session. In Princeton Township, too, the heat was on: the board of education got its third tough nut to crack when a petition asserting school hours (8:30-2:30) for five year olds were too long was short-circuited by another asking that status quo be maintained.

Already beset with the need to determine whether the district's best interests lay in spending $700,000 to modernize its Valley Road school, as well as what decision should be reached on consolidation with the borough, board members could be sure of just one thing: with feeling running high on both sides of all three questions, from here in a lot of their neighbors would be somewhat disgruntled.

(*Continued on page four*)

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It's New to Us

Talent Search. In over two years of town-covering for this column, we've had lots of fun and surprises, not the least of which has been the discovering of some really good local talent. In our one-shot way, we've tried to give a helping hand to some of the people who haven't known how to get the results of their skill seen and bought. Two desires have stuck with us as a result of the little we have done. The first is to do something more than merely *write* about "home-grown" products; the second is to unearth more of them, because we can't help feeling that the sources have just barely been tapped.

Recently we ran into an idea that should do the first job; and this particular paragraph will, we hope, do the second. If you can produce anything that anybody might like to buy, you are hereby invited to call 1908 any weekday between 1 and 2, or write Box 371, and full details will be supplied. This invitation is by no means restricted to the distaff side—a phone call from males who are handy with hammer, paint brush or what-have-you will be just as welcome.

Convertible Sunskirt. This latest bit of imaginative genius in the clothing field is so new that we *think* (not having seen the latest issues) we're scooping "Mademoiselle," "Vogue" and "Life" in bringing it to you on paper. The Clothes Line (6 Chambers Street) does the actual bringing.

Really, this five-way skirt couldn't be simpler—it's one of those things that you wonder why you didn't invent yourself—but it took a fashion designer (Toni Owen, to be specific) to dream it up. A full graceful poplin skirt, in solid colors or checks, is made with a wide cummerbund attached to the back. Said cummerbund can be used to make five different costumes: 1) wrapped around the top of you, it makes a bare-shoulder sundress; 2 and 3) twisted in either of two ways, it turns into a scanty or not-so-scanty halter; 4) worn as a cummerbund, it makes an attractive skirt for pairing with a

(Continued on page seven)

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Sunkist Corn, Whole Kernel	2 tins for 33c	
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TOPICS OF THE TOWN

(continued from page two)

Bonanza. For residents of both municipalities this week, there was news that revived bedraggled pocketbooks: the law increasing the amount the state will pay for public education cut the estimated tax rate in the borough from 4.07 to 3.98, in the township from 3.67 to 3.56.

Razzberries for Robert. Next Friday night, Ohio's Senator Robert A. Taft will address Princetonians in Alexander Hall. Rumored for appearance here the following Wednesday, May 26, is New York's Governor Thomas E. Dewey.

Still uppermost in the minds of many who heard Harold E. Stassen here is the raucous reception accorded a speaker who is an acknowledged hand at coming off best in such a joust. But if Mr. Stassen had to overcome good-natured political heckling, what would befall Senator Taft, a poor campaigner whose voting record is diametrically opposite to most of the convictions of first-year voters?

Why Bother? In Trenton, the Legislature was considering a bill to raise from 14 to 15 the minimum age at which children may attend motion picture theaters unaccompanied by an adult. The revision was meaningless: in Princeton and elsewhere throughout the State, it would be difficult to find a law to which less attention was already being paid.

(Continued on page eight)

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Calendar of the Week

Saturday, May 15th

1:30 p.m.: Baseball: Princeton vs. Georgetown; University Field.

2:00 p.m.: Intersectional Rugby: Princeton vs. St. Louis, Mo.; Bedford Field.

5:00 p.m.: Finals, Eastern 150-pound Crew Championships; Lake Carnegie.

Sunday, May 16th

7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:00 a.m.: Mass, St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church.

9:30 a.m.: Sermon, the Rev. Milton J. Nauss; Lutheran Service; Westminster Chapel.

11:00 a.m.: "The Price of Pentecost," the Rev. Dr. Frank S. Niles; First Church.
"The Spirit of God and Daily Life," the Rev. Dr. William L. Tucker; Second Church.
Guest Preacher, the Rev. U. B. Blakeley, Princeton Seminary; Witherspoon Presbyterian Church.
"The Silent Sentinel," the Rev. Lynn H. Corson; Methodist Church.
University Preacher, Dean Donald B. Aldrich; University Chapel.
"Mortals and Immortals," Lesson-Sermon; First Church of Christ, Scientist.
Sermon, Trinity Episcopal Church.

Noon: House-to-House Collection of scrap paper; sponsored by Charles Robinson Post Number 218, American Legion.

7:30 p.m.: Choral Evensong, Trinity Church.

8:00 p.m.: "The Day of Salvation," the Rev. Dr. Niles; First Church.
United Service of Worship; including Cranbury Church and Presbyterian Churches of Princeton; Witherspoon Church.

8:15 p.m.: Evening Service; First Church of Christ, Scientist.

8:30 p.m.: Concert, Princeton University Orchestra; McCarter Theater.

Wednesday, May 19th

3:15 p.m.: Track: Princeton H. S. vs. Bound Brook; H. S. Athletic Field.

4:00 p.m.: Baseball: Princeton vs. Pennsylvania; University Field.

8:00 p.m.: "The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ," the Rev. Dr. Niles; First Church.
Devotional Service; Methodist Church.

8:15 p.m.: Wednesday Evening Meeting; First Church of Christ, Scientist.

Thursday, May 20th

6:15 p.m.: Monmouth Junction vs. Princeton, Twin-M League Baseball; Brokaw Field.

8:30 p.m.: "Prospects for a Governed World," Vernon Nash, United World Federalists; McCosh 28, Univ. Campus.

Friday, May 21st

8:30 p.m.: Political Rally, Senator Robert A. Taft; Alexander Hall, Univ. Campus.

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News of the Theatres

The Playhouse

Saigon (Fri., Sat.), is a melodrama set in the Far East in which Alan Ladd alternately chases $500,000 and Veronica Lake. Not slow but inclined to be somewhat stupid in plot.

All My Sons (Sun. thru Wed.), based on the prize-winning play, casts Edward G. Robinson as an industrialist who approves defective war material, frames his partner, causes one son's suicide, is brought to justice by another (Burt Lancaster.) Well acted, ably written but likely to drag.

Letter from an Unknown Woman (Thurs., Fri., Sat.) tells of Joan Fontaine's unrequited love for Louis Jourdan, from adolescent years to life's twilight. Good acting doesn't redeem a poor story.

The Garden

To the Victor (Fri., Sat), set in Paris, is average melodramatic fare about the underground and the black market. With Dennis Morgan, Swedish Viveca Lindfors.

The Red House (Mon., Tues.), is a psychological drama about a girl whom Edward G. Robinson raises on his farm as his daughter. Revelation of her true identity makes a fair mystery story.

Carnegie Hall (Wed., Thurs.), has a very weak plot (about the career of a young pianist) which will probably be overlooked by lovers of classical music. Stars who appear include Artur Rodzinski, Leopold Stokowski, Lily Pons, Rise Stevens, Gregor Piatigorsky, Jascha Heifetz, the New York Philharmonic.

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IT'S NEW TO US

(Continued from page three)

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Each purchaser is given a numbered ticket the stub of which is used for drawing winners. First prize is $5 worth of merchandise from the section where the winning ticket was originally given out. Second prize brings you $3 in goods; third, $2. To emphasize and to back up our mathematics—there will be three prizes in *each* department, making nine each time. That *should* give you eight additional chances to be a winner—it does, doesn't it?

The first drawing will be held on Tuesday, and the winning numbers will be conspicuously posted in the store, with Saturday the deadline for prize-collecting. Subsequent drawings will be announced on later tickets.

INTERESTING POSITION OPEN for clerk-typist in production department of Princeton Film Center. Tel. 3550.

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TOPICS OF THE TOWN

(*Continued from page four*)

Miscellany. Because fire plugs are too inconspicuous when painted green with white tops, they will henceforth be green with red tops (except on the university campus, where the color design has been temporarily vetoed by the grounds and buildings department) . . . the annual Memorial Day parade will take place May 31 and the fire department inspection has been set for June 25 . . . 200 Princeton undergraduates have pledged themselves for a year of service in an international police force, over half of them ex-GI's.

Professor Frank Johnson, a TOWN TOPICS' Man of the Week in April, will be written up in Life this week for his accomplishments as a member of the Department of Biology . . . an Army transport will leave Princeton Airport Saturday with several Princeton scientists bound for more cosmic ray research in northern Minnesota . . . note for ex-servicemen: the airport (located on the Somerville Road) has been approved to provide flight instruction under the G.I. Bill, thus enabling you to become a pilot at the expense of Sam, Sam, the Avuncular Man.

Sports notes: baseball games Friday and Saturday and the 150-lb. rowing championships highlight the weekend . . . the Tiger lightweights aren't conceded much of a chance, but the varsity crew has an outside opportunity to stage an upset in the Eastern sprint title regatta at Cambridge . . . Harvard, Navy and Yale are ranked ahead of the Nassau oarsmen in that order.

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